



The Guardian

VOLUME 37, Issue 9

September 2006

1-G-2 Out of Service Gone But Not Forgotten

If Tears Could Build a Stairway
Submitted by Officer Laury Pendergrass

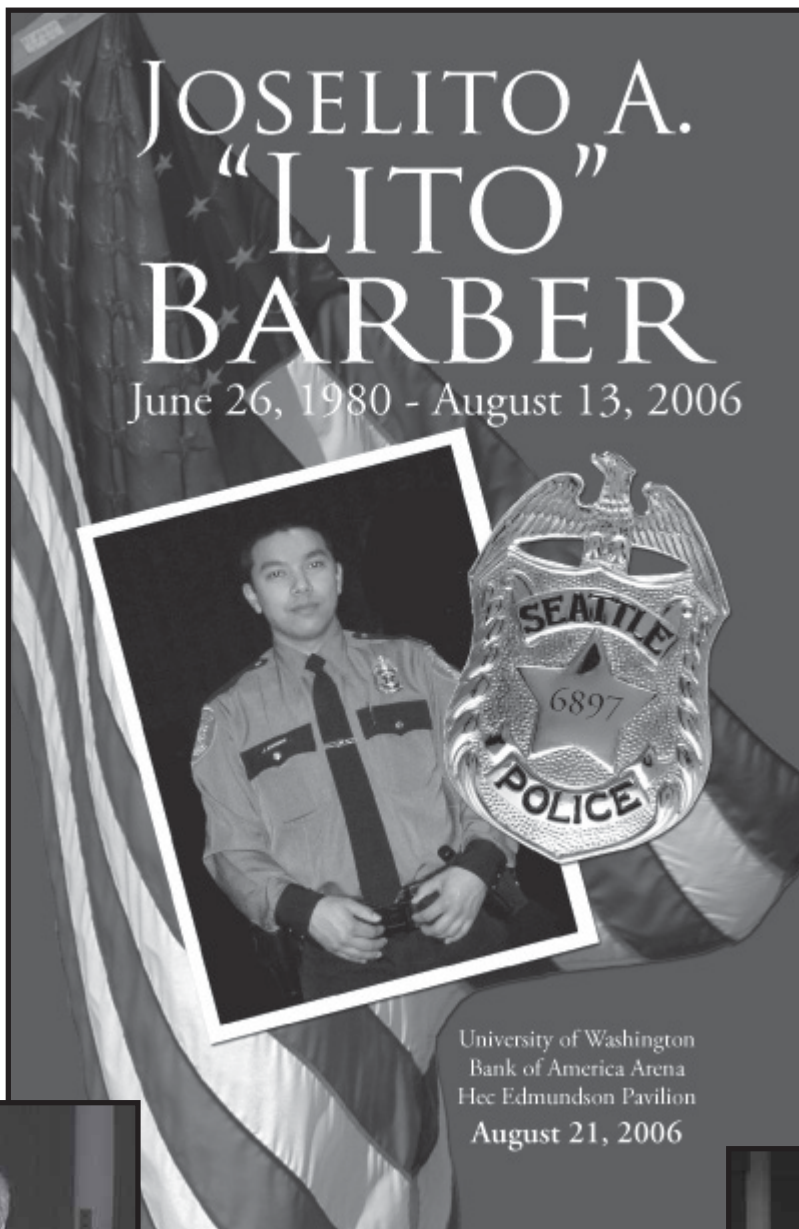
If tears could build a stairway
And memories build a lane
I could walk right up to heaven
And bring you back again.

No farewell words were spoken
No time to say "Goodbye".
You were gone before I knew it
And only God knows why.

My heart still aches with sadness
And secret tears still flow.
What it meant to know you-
No one can ever know.

But now I know you want me
To mourn for you no more.
To remember all the happy times
Life still has much in store.

Since you'll never be forgotten
I pledge to you today-
A hollowed place within my heart



A police officer died today
before the dawn's early light.
He started his shift
in the darkness of night.
An honored man-
A guardian in blue-
putting his life on the line
to protect me and you.
He had a greater calling-
one we don't understand.
For his lord has called him
To serve in Heaven's land.
You will always be with us-
now an Angel in blue,
A Guardian looking down-
protecting me and you.

By Linda Spromberg
©August 2006



End Of Watch:
08-13-2006



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The **Guardian**

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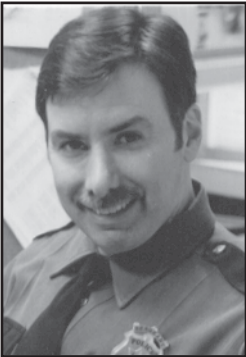
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It is with very heavy hearts that we produce this edition of *The Guardian*. Under the direction of *The Guardian* Editor, Ron Smith, we have dedicated this edition to our fallen brother, Officer Joselito A. Barber #6897. One of Seattle's finest has once again been taken and we have lost a member of our police family. Officer Barber was everything that a police officer should be. He was intelligent, strong and courageous. He had a sense of humor and loved life. When I spoke to his dad, Ernie, he told me that like most parents, he hoped that one day his son would move into a safer assignment within the department. He said that Joselito wanted to be out on the streets and enjoyed the activity of the East precinct. He loved his job and wanted nothing more than to be out patrolling the city streets. He gave his life while working his beat and keeping its' citizens safe. He died in the service of others. There is nothing more noble than that. Officer Barber will be an inspiration to many people for years to come. Young people can look to him as an inspiration, that with hard work and determination, you can achieve your goals. He will also be an inspiration to many officers. His example of integrity and service will be a model that young officers will strive to attain. Veteran officers will be inspired and renewed by his attitude. He reminded all of us that this job is pretty special. That through all of the negatives associated with the profession, we do make a difference. There are thousands who rely on our help and protection each and every day. Officer Barber approached each shift in that mind set and that is the challenge for all of us. We need to remember the enthusiasm we felt on our academy graduation day and try to rekindle that attitude, despite the negative forces that stand in our way. By approaching our job in this light we will honor not only Joselito, but every officer who gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to this community. We do make a difference even if it is not always acknowledged or recognized. It is in tragic times like these, that we are also reminded that we are all part of the police family. We are diverse and come from many different backgrounds, but when we pin on the badge we enter into a unique family. Like most families we have our difficulties. We may have our disagreements and moments of dysfunction, but the badge we wear binds us in a way that other professions do not. Many of the other professions do not always understand it and often times misinterpret this bond that connects us all. The bond comes from shared experiences. Being in situations where you rely on your fellow officer strengthens the family experience. Being misjudged and misunderstood by those who have never worn the badge also binds us closer together. Like some families we have those members who step out of line and a few who violate the family trust, but fortunately those circumstances are few and far between. Like families we don't always verbalize to those closest to us what they really mean to us, including how they inspire us and how they make us look forward to coming to work. Rather than eloquent words, we will often use humor and good-natured kidding or sometimes just a slap on the back. The important fact is that the feelings are there. Our family ties are forever solidified as we stand in formation to honor a fellow brother or sister officer who is taken from us. We look at each other and know that a member of the family is gone. We think back to many calls and situations where

President's Message

By Sergeant Rich O'Neill, SPOG President

we could have easily been taken but yet we were spared. We know that tomorrow or next year we may be called upon to make the ultimate sacrifice. We know that and yet we pin the badge on each and every day. That is what makes us special and that is why we need each other and we need to recognize that we are all family. The month of September will also mark the 5th anniversary of the attack on America. I am not an Oliver Stone fan, but I urge everyone to see his latest movie, *World Trade Center*. The story is from the police officer's perspective. If you ever want an example of what the term "police family" means or what "having each other's back" means please go see the movie. We must never forget that almost 3,000 people lost their lives that day. 343 firefighters and 72 police officers perished. As thousands ran from the buildings, the police and firefighters were running into the building. Their heroic actions saved scores of people. Many people wonder what kind of person would run into a burning building to save strangers. I don't wonder that because I serve with fellow officers everyday who I know would do the same thing. I know Officer Joselito Barber would have been the first to volunteer. That is why Joselito and all of you are called "Seattle's Finest." In closing, I'd like to leave with a short poem in honor of Officer Barber. May he rest in peace!

Our Brother Has Been Taken
Author Unknown

*Our brother has been taken and gently laid to rest;
Fate seems so cruel at times to only take the best.
While those who care for no one are left to walk life's street;
Bringing less joy than sorrow to those whose path they meet.
Our brother lives forever if only in our minds;
He'll never be forgotten nor ever left behind.
He'll stand before us always as if to guide our way;
Through all our tasks and duties awaiting us each day.
Our brother has been taken and though we wonder why;
We'll still perform our duties as days then weeks go by.
We'll travel where fate leads, through days of dark or fair;
Until we stand for Roll Call beside our brother there*

- I see**
- Adults
 - Couples
 - Family management issues
- dealing with:**
- Post-trauma reactions
 - Stress management
 - Life and Career choice points
 - Depression
 - Anxiety
 - Anger management

I am a licensed clinical psychologist (state license #2433). I have been working with public safety employees since 1975. I was the in-house Seattle Police Clinical Psychologist from 1982--2000. I am now in private practice in the Minor&James Medical Building and still consult with SPD on a variety of issues. I also consult with a number of public safety agencies on local, state, regional,

Norman J. Mar, Ph.D.
(206) 340-8009 voice
njmar@earthlink.net

History Corner

By The Guardian Staff

In commemoration of the dedication and sacrifice made by these officers who both lived and lost their lives while serving the Citizens of Seattle

David Sires	10-16-1881	Olof F. Wilson	03-31-1935
James L. Wells	11-28-1897	Trent A. Sickles1	1-26-1935
Thomas L. Roberts	04-10-1898	Theodore E. Stevens	11-27-1935
Enoch E. Breece	07-03-1902	Con B. Anderson	09-27-1936
Albert C. Schaneman	09-14-1903	Frederick H. Hull	11-15-1945
Matthias H. Rude	09-24-1910	William T. Rumble	10-29-1947
Judson P. Davis	02-23-1911	Harry W. Vosper	07-21-1949
William H. Cunliffe	06-17-1911	John T. Clancy Jr.	12-28-1949
Henry H. Harris	07-04-1911	Frank W. Hardy	03-12-1954
Arthur K. Ruckart	12-27-1914	James C. Brizendine	07-21-1955
Lawerence E. Kost	12-12-1915	David P. Richards	09-01-1967
John F. Weedon	07-24-1916	John E. Bartlett	03-09-1968
Robert R. Wiley	07-30-1916	Robert R. Allshaw	11-11-1968
Edwin Wilson	09-24-1919	Robert D. Ward	05-15-1969
Volney L. Stevens	01-14-1921	Fred D. Carr	02-25-1973
James J. O'Brien	01-21-1921	James M. Forbes	06-21-1974
William T. Angle	01-22-1921	James St. DeLore	06-21-1974
Neil C. McMillan	01-24-1921	Dorian L. Halvorson	09-24-1976
Charles O. Legate	03-17-1922	Jerry I. Wyant	10-26-1976
Arthur B. Luntsford	01-20-1923	Nicholas N. Davis	12-18-1984
Amos J. Comer	07-25-1924	Dale E. Eggers	04-23-1985
Robert L. Litsey	09-25-1924	Antonio M. Terry	06-04-1994
Fred Ivey	05-10-1928	Kenneth L. Davis	05-11-1995
Lyle F. Tracy	09-27-1928	Gary R. Lindell	03-13-2002
Emory R. Sherard	09-15-1928	Jackson V. Lone	03-16-2005
Eugene W. Perry	09-21-1930	Joselito A. Barber	08-13-2006
Walter G. Cottle	09-29-1930		
Harry E. Williams	08-02-1931	**names taken from the Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial website www.WSLEMF.org **	
Ralph H. Ahner	09-13-1932		
Ellsworth W. Cordes	12-31-1932		
John S. Donlan	05-20-1934		

Wanted: Bowlers

By Mike Hori, SPD Retired

The South End Law Enforcement Trio bowling league will be bowling at MAGIC LANES in White Center, 10612 15th Ave SW, Seattle. The season will be starting on Wednesday, Sept 20, 2006 at 4:30 PM. The league is open to men and women of Law Enforcement Agencies, civilian employees affiliated with Law Enforcement Agencies, and family members. The teams consist of three bowlers, plus two alternates if needed. The teams can be any combination of all men, all women, or both. This is a handicapped league, 90% of 200, so novice bowlers are welcomed. The league starts at 4:30 PM and usually ends around 6:15 PM.

The time is great for first and third watch officers, and detectives, and is close to the South and Southwest Precincts. The bowling season will be 28 weeks long, with a 1st and 2nd half, and will end on April 11, 2007.

There will be a league meeting on Wednesday, Sept 13, 2006 at 4:30 PM at the bowling alley, and following the meeting there will be **FREE BOWLING**. Bowlers are encouraged to show up so we can make up teams, or let us know if you have a team. If you need any more information, please contact Mike Hori (Retired) at home, 425-432-1973, or email me at: horim@comcast.net



Happy Anniversary

The Guardian Staff is pleased to announce the milestones achieved by the following SPOG



20 Years of Service
Officer Vaniece Armstrong, South Precinct

15 Years of Service
Detective Tom Healy, Robbery
Officer Brian Guenther, South Precinct
Officer Walt Hayden, Motors
Officer Mark Mulvanny, Harbor

10 Years of Service
Detective Greg Suggett, FFFE
Detective Kevin Grossman, SAU

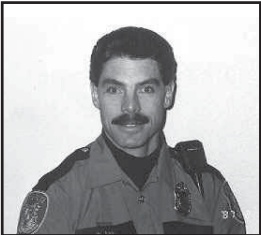
5 Years of Service
Officer Mark James, West Precinct
Officer Lydee Steinberg, North Precinct

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Important Date!!!!

SPOG Membership Meeting
Wednesday, September 27th
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SPOG Election Results

By-Law Ammendments

1188 ballots were mailed out. 389 ballots were returned. The results are as follows:

Ammendment 1

Change terms of President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer from two to three years.

Accept: 322 Reject: 67

Ammendment 2

Vacancy of office. Assumption of Vice President to President.

Accept: 357 Reject: 32

Ammendment 3

Removal of an Executive Officer or Board Member.

Accept: 353 Reject: 34

Ammendment 4

Procedures for having non-Guild members attend membership, board or special meetings.

Accept: 344 Reject: 44

The Guild actively urges its members to write articles for publication in *TheGuardian*. The newspaper cannot survive without membership contributions.

All articles submitted for publication will be accepted subject to editorial review and changes. The editor shall retain the decision to publish, not publish, or edit an article. The editor's decision to publish or not publish an article can be appealed to the editorial board, which shall have final and binding decision making authority over the publication of the article. Articles appearing under an author's byline do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild.

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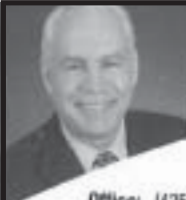
All *Guardian* submissions are due
by September 15, 2006
to spogguardian@yahoo.com

S.P.A.A. Trio League North AKA "Bowling"

By Bobby Hoff, President, Seattle Police Bowling Association

Fall is about to begin, and it is time to get the indoor competitive juices flowing. The S.P.A.A. North End Bowling league is going to start. There will be an organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 6th 2006, at 1630 hrs. with **free bowling** after the meeting. League play begins on September 20th 2006. We take a week off due to the Retired Officers Banquet on the 13th. The league has moved, due to the closure of "Lei Lani Lanes", to "Sunset Bowl", at 14th NW and NW Market St., in Ballard. This is a very competitive league, 90% handicap, with averages ranging from 102 to 200+, so you do not have a high average to join the fun. If you want to join in on the good time, and meet some real nice people, call Bobby Hoff at 425 204-1053, evenings or 206 799-5923, days. If no one answers, leave a message. This is an afternoon league, starting at 1630 hrs., and ending at about 1800 hrs. We only bowl 27 weeks, so we will end in the middle of March. This league is open to all employees of the Seattle Police Department, male and female, and friends of S.P.D. If you need to be placed on a team, or have a full (three person) team, call Bobby at above listed numbers, you can be placed in our league.

If you just want to show up at the meeting on the 6th you can be placed on a team at that time, or just show and bowl for free to see if you like it. Hope to see you there.



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Officer of the Month

By Officer Christopher Hall, West Precinct

The SPOG Officer of the Month is Officer Stephen Clark of the North Precinct. Officer Clark was nominated by Sergeant Ariel Vela for his actions above and beyond the call of duty in a missing child case.

On July 20, 2006, Officer Clark and other officers responded to a call of a missing 5-year-old at an apartment complex that is immediately next to Bitter Lake. A check of the residence did not locate the child, and the officers continued their search outside the building. The officers located a pair of wet shoes at the waterfront on a dock and the mother confirmed they were the child’s shoes. The mother was convinced that the child had fallen into the lake and was trapped beneath the dock. Harbor, SFD dive crews and medics were called to respond.

Officer Clark, an E.M.T., was well aware of how the survival rates of drowning victims decrease as time goes on. Officer Clark asked for permission to dive in the lake and look for the child. Sergeant Vela sums up Officer Clark’s actions when he wrote in his nomination, “Officer Clark removed his gun belt and uniform shirt and heroically dove into the cold, muddy and murky water.” Officer Clark searched for several minutes, underneath the dock, and although he was unable to locate the child, he continued to dive and search until dive crews arrived.

All indications were that the child had fallen into the lake; however, the child was found a short time later hiding beneath a pile of clothing inside her residence.

Sergeant Vela summed up his nomination saying, “I would like to take this opportunity to personally commend Officer Clark for his outstanding and heroic work at this incident. Officer Clark, regardless of the potential dangers involved, clearly demonstrated his dedication to saving lives. There is no doubt in my mind that if [the child] would have been in the lake, Officer Clark’s quick thinking and extraordinary actions would have had positive results.”

Also nominated this month were:

- Officers Clayton Powell and Marshall Coolidge of the South Precinct were nominated by Lt. Pierre Davis and Acting Sergeant Wayne Johnson for their response to a DV assault where a family member was assaulting others with a meat cleaver. Officer Powell arrived first on the scene, contacted and provided aid to an injured victim, and then distracted the suspect from his continued assault while waiting for additional units to respond. Officer Coolidge and others responded and were able to take the suspect into custody. Lt. Davis noted, “In reading the case report, there is no doubt in my mind that had Officers Powell and Coolidge not

intervened and apprehended the subject, several people would have been further assaulted or killed. This type of police work is something that our Department can look to with pride and admiration.”

- Officers Dave Marley and Don George of the North Precinct were nominated by Sergeant Angela Gordon for their work on a promoting prostitution arrest. Officers Marley and George contacted a juvenile prostitute on Aurora Avenue who gave them information regarding who her pimp was and that she had been brought to Seattle to work. Officers developed information and provided it to other agencies. The suspect vehicle and suspect were located by Tukwila PD (at Déjà vu) and the suspect was arrested. The officers had the vehicle impounded and sent to the processing room as it was believed to contain evidence. The suspect denied any criminal involvement, and was booked into KCJ.

- Sergeant Mark Hazard of the West Precinct was nominated by Officer Sam Cook for his actions and leadership at an incident where a mentally ill male had climbed a crane. SFD responded and asked for police protection as they tried to figure out how to get this guy back down from 300 ft. Sergeant Hazard arrived, and although SWAT had been called, they were still awhile out. Sergeant Hazard recognized the importance of getting officers up to the subject, and having SWAT experience, volunteered to go up and asked for volunteers to go with him. Officer Cook went up with Sergeant Hazard, and once near the suspect, Sergeant Hazard recognized the subject from previous contacts. The suspect recognized Sergeant Hazard as well, and it was clear to Officer Cook that the subject trusted Sergeant Hazard. After a few minutes, Sergeant Hazard was able to convince this guy to climb down as he was completely cooperative. Officer Cook noted, “If Mark was not the outstanding officer he is, his presence there and history with this guy could have easily been as detrimental as it was helpful. I am confident that it was Mark’s quality, daily policing and positive interactions with the suspect that ended this very dangerous situation quickly and with no injuries or casualties.”

Yet another month of extraordinary efforts and actions by our officers. Many of the voting committee members commented that this was a difficult month to decide who to vote for. Congratulations to Officer Clark and all of the other nominees. Stay Safe.

Have you registerd yet?

The SPOG Website
www.SeattlePoliceGuild.org

New Features

Calendar of Events
SPOG in the news
SPOG contact lists
A members only section
SPOG Online Store



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password

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Reflections of Officer Joselito “Lito” Barber

I just caught the news for the first time today and was shocked by the loss of your officer. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and the extended SPD family.

Frank Zangar, Law Enforcement Liaison Lo-Jack Corporation

Joselito was an excellent student and had great potential. He always had a smile on his face and was eager to learn. He accepted feedback well and was enthusiastic about the job. He was patient and believed in the service aspect of the job. He was doing well in his Phase III training assignment. We all will miss him. –

Officer Virgil McDonald #5159, SPD FTO Coordinator

Officer Barber was one of those people you immediately like. He always came to roll call and sat in his chair with a big beaming smile on his face. His chest was stuck out; he was so happy, and so proud to be in the uniform and to be apart of this lifestyle. He was an avid learner and was constantly asking questions to make himself a better officer. From the start everyone saw he had a good head on his shoulders and a big heart. He had the makings of a great police officer. When I interviewed his squad mates and sergeant about his performance everyone unanimously told me he was a valuable addition to the department and would be a great officer. –

Officer George Davisson #6684

I was in Lito’s squad when he passed away. When we left the locker room the night of his passing, he said to me, “See you out there.” I’ll always remember how Lito would always sit in the same chair at roll call in the early hours of the morning, with a huge grin on his face, and check and double check his mags while he sat there, making sure that no one slipped in a dummy round as a prank. I clicked with Lito because of our age and personalities. I’ll miss the conversations we had as we exchanged stories about our FTO rotations. He and I were the only 20 yr olds in the squad, so we instantly hit it off. I felt, though we knew each other for such a brief time, we had so much in common and were destined to become career friends. Lito was a great officer, always quick to back you even if he was on the other side of Capitol Hill. Just a day before he passed, I had emailed him to see if he wanted to meet up on our Friday after work so I could pick his brain and grab a beer. I will miss him incredibly.

Officer Jonathan Chin #6928

Joselito was my candidate. He was a great guy, and one of the guys that I actually would want to work a two-man car with. He called me sir even when I told him that it wasn’t required. I made him laugh when I told him I was only 4 years older than him... Yet he still insisted on

calling me sir. He always showed up to all of his appointments at least a half hour ahead of schedule, dressed in a suit even when it wasn’t required. He asked me countless questions about becoming a police officer and what he needed to do to prepare himself for the next step.

He was one of the most enthusiastic candidates that I have had in my short time in backgrounds. Joselito inspired all of the backgrounders. Everyone would go up to him to talk and joke around with him, since he had such a good attitude and was always so respectful. I remembered going to Home Depot and interviewing his colleagues. They spoke so highly of him and didn’t want to lose him as a loss prevention officer. They knew they couldn’t hold him back and that his heart was set on joining SPD. I remembered meeting his fiancée Amber at Starbucks and talking to her about Joselito. I could tell that they were very happy together and that she supported him fully. She was concerned with Joselito becoming a police officer but she still wholeheartedly supported him. I just went back to my notes from my interview with her and this statement from his fiancé stands out the most. I asked his fiancé about Joselito becoming a police officer and if she would recommend him she replied, “Yes I see it in him. In his personality... I know that he’d be good at it and do a good job. I know that he would do what needs to be done and stay safe.” It wasn’t much longer until I called him after the hiring board. I told him that the board decided to hire him... he was so excited. He kept asking me “Are you serious!” I don’t think the reality of him becoming a police recruit came to him until I told him Joselito, I am not kidding and I hope you like wearing French blue because your in the next academy class. Not surprisingly Joselito excelled in the academy and when I went to his graduation he came up to me with a huge smile on his face and thanked me for everything that I did. I told him he did not have to thank me and that he earned the badge that he was wearing. I told him that I looked forward to working with him someday. He laughed and said, “That’s not going to happen”. I guess Joselito was right. Officer Joselito Barber #6897... GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

Detective Rob Rainford #6754

I had the honor and privilege of being Officer Barber’s Tac officer here at the academy. Joselito was a top-notch recruit; from the first week of the academy you could tell that he was going to be a good police officer. He was hard working, gave a 100% at all times, and he was a pleasure to be around. His whole class liked and respected him. I and my fellow Tac officers here will miss him at the academy.

Officer Brad Conway #6149

Lito was not only my classmate at academy, but became a trusted friend. Our first FTO assignment was at the North Precinct, Union sector. We carpooled every day during that rotation, and continued to keep in touch during our FTO training. When we were finally on our own we routinely sent messages to each other via MDC to meet for coffee/lunch or ask questions. I trusted Lito’s judgment in any situation that we were called to and knew I could rely on him as my back up. I have lost a

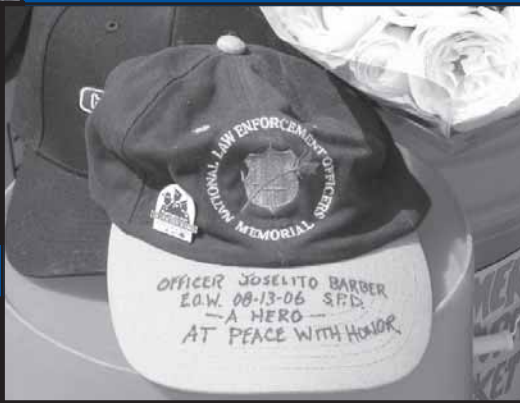
good friend and colleague. Seattle has lost an excellent officer.

Officer Dale Davenport #6902

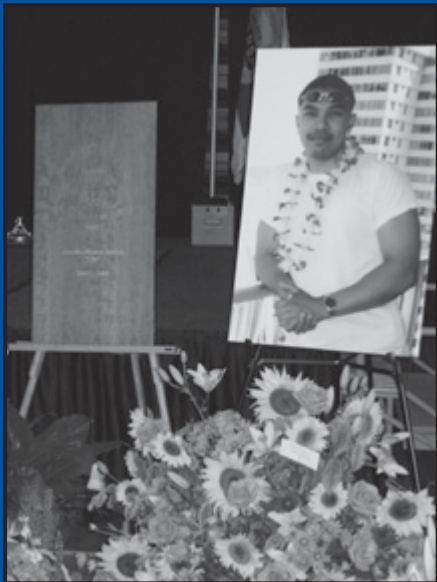
I was a classmate of Officer Barber’s during the academy. Barber was extremely enthusiastic about becoming a police officer. Barber had a reputation of being extremely gullible. I don’t know whether it was his honest family... or he didn’t think a fellow recruit would tell a lie, he seemed to believe every story no matter how far fetched. His famous words were, “are you serious?,” “are



RoadsideMemorial Site at 23rd and Yesler Way



Seattle Police Department East Precinct



Reflections of Officer Joselito “Lito” Barber

you kidding me??” Barber’s sense of humor made him a joy to be around.

During simmunitions training Barber was trying to explain to the rest of the class what kind of cover the range staff was giving him. He grabbed a 12-ounce water bottle and jumped on the floor in the middle of the classroom and pretended to hide behind it, effectively using it as cover, peeking around the bottle.

Officer Wade Jones #6903

I met Officer Barber during his FTO period at the West Precinct. I

remember afterward thinking that we had hired a “good one” that this young man was going to be a good cop. He proved me right. Rest in Peace brother.

Sergeant George Bray #5123

I just wanted to convey my condolences for the officer from your department who was just killed in the traffic accident.

Deputy Inspector Stuart K. Cameron, Suffolk County (NY) Police

This is being written with overwhelming sadness. We never imagine a day like this would come when we are in the Police Academy or during our training. I will never forget the laughs we shared in Post BLEA, you had a great sense of humor, and the way you would impersonate you Academy instructors was hilarious. You were so eager to be a Police Officer you had that passion in your eyes. You reminded me so much of myself when I was a rookie. I know I have a tendency to talk a lot, but you would truly listen to my experience as a police officer and the incidents I have been involved in. I knew you would make it, I never once doubted that. To lose you so suddenly and so tragically hurts to the core of every police officer out there. And I know I am not alone in saying that I am angry at how unfair this is. You will be missed terribly and remembered for always. Until we meet again, good night my friend...

Officer Dionne Perkins #5738

Lito was one of those students that from the time you met him you knew was a special person. I first met him at a meeting set up by Barb Wilson where 1st rotation FTOs met their students. It was evident at that time that he was unlike any other student I’d had. He had a drive that showed in his demeanor that he had achieved a huge goal in his life, that of becoming a cop. He approached his job with a very strong desire to learn. As any first rotation student, he made his share of mistakes, but the amazing thing was his ability to not repeat them. Any negative feedback he received made him strive to do better. He was one of those students that really made you think.

One call I remember clearly was a warrant arrest we made. After leaving the house and heading to the precinct, Lito made a wrong turn. The suspect- no stranger to the location of the North Precinct- asked if we were going to the precinct or straight to KCJ. Lito informed her that we were going to the precinct, and with that turned into a residential area where he proceeded to get lost. The prisoner in the back finally asked where he was going and he told her that he’d gotten turned around. Her response was “Just take a left at this stop sign, Bud. I’ll get you to the precinct!” She proceeded to provide all necessary directions to the precinct.

It was during his final 2-week evaluation phase that I really came to know Lito. As it is mainly an evaluation phase with little time needed for training, we had a lot of time to discuss his future. When I asked him where he wanted to work, he was quick to say that he wanted to work 1st East. He explained that his fiancée Amber worked in the area,

and by working that shift, he could meet her for lunch after he got off work, then head home for a few hours sleep before she came home. When he spoke of her, he spoke with such a strong fondness that it seemed pretty certain that he found his partner for life. His face would light up as he talked about her, explaining that she wanted to go on to medical school and become a P.A. He started picking my brain about home buying and retirement. At 26, he had so much to look forward to, and it seemed that he wanted it to be planned perfectly.

I received the call of Lito’s accident early on Sunday, August 13th from another of my students. I could tell from the panicked tone in his voice that something was wrong. All I remember hearing is that “Lito was t-boned and didn’t make it.” Everything was a blur after that as I rushed to get up to HMC to do whatever I could. On arriving, I met Amber as well as several members of his family. I spoke with his cousin Ryan, who, in a moment of levity described Lito as being the real life version of the TV character Monk. He laughed as he told me how, after he’d turn off a light switch, Lito would go over and push down on the switch as well, saying that he just wanted to make sure that the light wouldn’t turn back on. He also spoke of how Lito would check the sunroof in his car whenever he’d get out. He’d stick his finger up against the seal to make sure that it was fully closed, then push the power roof button before doing another physical check of the seal.

The last time I ever saw Lito was on June 25th when he and Dale Davenport-a classmate of his with whom he went through his first and last FTO rotations- took our squad out to celebrate their completion of FTO. My drinks of choice that night were Guinness and Bushmill’s. I don’t know that I’ll ever consume either of these drinks without silently toasting Lito’s memory. He left the North Precinct as one of my former students and within 2 months became one of my heroes.

I can’t help but think of Lito in Heaven following everyone around checking to ensure that all light switches have been properly turned off, then going off to St. Peter’s Gate making sure it’s properly secured so that no one can sneak inside.

Officer Joe Mahar #5992

I met Lito when he was a student in my squad. My first impression of him was that not only did he want to learn, but he also was eager to learn. Lito always brought a smile and a friendly face to work.

I feel fortunate that I met Lito and saddened that more of us in the

Continued on Page 8



Memorial Service on August 21, 2006



Assistant Chief Nick Metz, San Francisco Police Sergeant Inspector Glenn Sylvester (Officer Barbers' Uncle) and Detective Brandon James



Reflections of Officer Joselito “Lito” Barber

Continued from page 7

Seattle Police Department did not.
Salamat Lito!
Officer J.A. Legaspi #6231

I can imagine your excitement as you awoke on that Sunday morning at the God awful hour required to attend a first watch roll call. You drive into work, the streets alive with many your age just finishing a Saturday night of revelry, unaware that a wolf is lurking around the City looking for it’s prey. You knowingly put your self in harms way when you get dressed for shift in awe, as I am every day that you are lucky enough to do a job that you love. You reflect on your future, that of a husband, a father and a police officer. You attend an understaffed roll call without consideration of the potential safety risks to you, only the thought that you will do more with less, as is the nature of one who puts on the uniform and pins on the badge. You joke and laugh with those who are still only half awake and burned out from the job. You log into service and proceed to start your watch, to guard your city, like the proverbial sheep dog that guards it’s flock. Innocently enough you enter that fateful intersection and unknowingly do what no other officer was able to do that night save the flock from the wolf that would settle for nothing less than blood on this day. You undoubtedly saved one or many of our flock that morning with your unselfish desire to serve and protect. For this, I am so proud to call you my brother in blue, even though I never had the honor of meeting you. To Joselito’s family; thank you for sharing “Lito” with us. Know he died a hero, saving lives, in what I feel is the greatest and most rewarding job in the world. His memory will be honored and cherished by those who he inspires to follow in his footsteps. My family’s thoughts and prayers are with you all.
SPD Officer JD Huber #6338 and family

The SPOG Board
and Guardian Staff
wish to send the
Barber Family our
Condolences and
Deepest Sympathy

Officer Joselito “Lito”
Barber # 6897
Gone But Not Forgotten

The Point Man
(Submitted by
Sergeant Ryan Long, Vice)
*Originally written by an unknown
San Diego PD Lieutenant, 1981
Quoted by Robert Vernon, Deputy
Chief, LAPD (retired)*

All of us have heard by now, although those many versions of what happened on Crandall Street on a Saturday afternoon, and how we came to lose officers Harry Tiffany and Ron Ebeltoft. Some of us even know the truth. And a few of us, apart from the table-pounders and chronic fault-seekers, know that there are just some things you can’t do without suffering - very literally and profoundly – casualties, and our job is one of them. You can’t race cars without crashes, you can’t dig mines without cave-ins, and you sure can’t send cops out into a street of a violent society without violent deaths. Tiffany and Ebeltoft knew that, and they did it anyway, as we all do. Those who knew them well say they did the best job they could all the time, as we all should do. Some of their friends say they did it because they loved it, and any of us who can’t say that should envy them for it. At least they died as rare and precious people – they died doing something they loved to do, and that is something we can never explain to those outside of our profession. You can’t be a cop because you didn’t get some other job; you can only be a cop because you want to. And there is an answer to why they died, something I learned half a world away many years ago as a young soldier preparing to face an enemy in combat for the first time. It was then that my Sergeant explained that there are only three rules in war. Rule #1: young men die. Rule #2: you can’t change rule 1; and Rule #3: somebody’s got to walk the point. You see when soldiers advance knowing the enemy is near, there is always one man way out in front of everyone else. His duty is to look for, and listen for, and sense that first contact. To spot the enemy, pinpoint the ambush and, as a consequence, take those first shots. It offends the logical mind, denies the instinct for survival, it ages and saddens, wisens and sometimes kill those who take their turn walking point, but it must be done. For there be no protection for the rest, and more bloodshed, more grief. The point man is there to save lives, even if he gives his own in the process. Well, society isn’t a company of soldiers, but it sure has someone walking point. Every time a cop goes out the station door, every time a cop answers a radio call, every time a cop stops to check something suspicious, and you can’t change rule #1. If I could say something to the people of this city, it would be this: I know some of you will remember our two brothers, but that’s not good enough. I want you to honor them

for what they did for you. They certainly didn’t have to do it. I’m not just talking about what they did on Saturday, June 6th. That was just a horrible, routine call that went bad. I mean what they did for you day after day, in darkness and in light, rain or shine, without ever expecting even a thank you. Tiffany and Ebeltoft volunteered to walk the point. Honor them. Remember them. In the quiet peace of your home, get down on your knees and thank God that they volunteered to take your turn at the Point.



Blue Lightning By Patrick

Foreign wars touch the soil in the land of the sun.
People cry out for shelter while they turn their heads and run.
Only pain shows the passage of the wars where men died.
Memories break the laughter and the dreams that we have tried.

Falling tears on the asphalt while the sky glows red and blue;
Childhood dreams turn to ashes and our hearts break in two.
But one man stands beside us, watching out for the fall,
Passion burning like a fire — he’s through it all...

And there’s that..
Blue Lightning coming down from the sky.
He’s the easy rider, but he’s not afraid to die.
He will stand for you forever even through the darkest night.
He’s that Blue Lightning: ready to rock, ready to fight.

Sometimes foes stand around him, weapons drawn for the kill.
Sometimes pain rears its ugly head even when he’s standing still.
Sometimes arrows of deception are cast his way, but miss their mark.
Sometimes sin brushes against him in the heat and the dark.

But he never loses grasp on the duty that he holds.
Even in the depths of winter his heart is never cold.
People say that he’s a hero, but he smiles silently,
Knowing that he’s proud to protect our violent society.

And there’s that..
Blue Lightning coming down from the sky.
He’s the easy rider, but he’s not afraid to die.
He will stand for you forever even through the darkest night.
He’s that Blue Lightning: ready to rock, ready to fight.

And when he lying next to his love, holding her close with arms so strong
He can forget all the memories Of the world’s bitter wrongs.
He can close his eyes and know that he’s making the world turn right:
The peaceful warrior Who survived the fight.

And there’s that...
Blue Lightning coming down from the stars.
If there’s ever a battle we know he won’t be that far.
On the pages of tomorrow, we will raise his name up high.
He’s that Blue Lightning: always to win, never to die.

—Dedicated to all the men and women of Law Enforcement

(Submitted by Sergeant Deb Nicholson
Words and music copyrighted 1993)

Technology

By Officer Mike Severance, Board Position #5

Our staffing took a big hit with the July Personnel Order. Since January 2005, the Department has hired 115 new officers. On the other side of the coin, there have been 84 separations. The net staffing change over the last 19 months stands at +31, or 1.63 new officers hired per month. It’s looking pretty dismal to me. Just as the Chief stated in a recent e-mail to all of us, I also wonder just how safe are we really.

There are many technological tools which we use in our trade. We pretty much take them for granted. I can attest to the fact that cops did not always have them. Let’s journey back in time to the Dark Ages, my rookie years, and look at some advances in technology.

The portable radio was the first big advance during my career. When I started with SPD, the only radio was the one in your patrol car. When you stepped out of your patrol car, your lifeline was gone, and you were totally on your own. When my brother and I worked as partners on the first 3G3, we got into a bit of a brawl with multiple suspects one night. Fortunately, Dave’s neighbor was riding with us as an observer, and he used the car radio to put out the call for help. It would be hard to imagine working the streets today without a portable radio.

The next big advance was the Kevlar vest. I think it was 1972 when the founder of Second Chance invented the first Kevlar vest for police officers. The guy had to be a little crazy because he promoted his product around the country by putting on one of the vests and shooting himself in the chest...ouch. It cost \$90 which was a small fortune back then. But the inventor allowed police officers to send him three \$30 checks dated a month apart. I bought one and wore it for many years before the Department started issuing vests. Thousands of police officers’ lives have been saved because of the Kevlar vest. Mine may have been one of them. According to an ER doctor, it saved me from fracturing my spine in a fall while searching for a burglar at the Blackstock Lumber Company.

When the first Mobile Data Terminal was installed in our patrol cars, I was like a kid in a candy store. What a boon it was for the street cops to have all that information available at our finger tips. The terminals have improved over the years. Unfortunately, Seattle’s street cops had access to much more information with the original MDT’s than we do now. We had access to more information because every bit of data from every citation written in Seattle went into the Sea-King database. A former Chief decided this information could not possibly be useful to the street cops, and Seattle stopped putting that information into the database.

It was 1971 or 1972 when I first saw a laser sight. It was a heavy and bulky device mounted under the barrel of an “American 180”, a .22 caliber machinegun. This weapon was used by some police departments, but it was used extensively in U.S. prisons. It was during fights in some of those prisons where the calming effect of the “red dot” was first noticed. Fights which could have developed into riots were ended without a shot being fired. The laser sight became something more than its inventors had intended. It became a less than lethal force alternative. For more than 30 years, the “red dot” has de-escalated more critical situations for police and correctional officers than one could count. I cannot explain the “red dot” effect in professional medical terms. I only know that it is an undeniable reality.

The laser sight is used by some of our own officers. All of the Department’s tasers are equipped with a laser sight. Many of our taser officers have had “red dot” incidents where a suspect has seen the red dot and immediately complied. That made it unnecessary for the officer to fire the taser.

Hundreds of law enforcement agencies, such as the Los Angeles County Sheriff, allow their officers to use laser sights on their duty weapons. Current Department policy forbids Seattle police officers from using laser sights on their duty weapons. I, for one, would like to see that policy changed.

Towards that end, I am in the process of testing and evaluating a laser sight. I purchased a set of laser grips manufactured by Crimson Trace Corporation. They are replacement grips, and the laser sight is totally integrated into the grips. I had never before fired any weapon with a laser sight. So far, I have fired several hundred test rounds, and I plan to fire several hundred more. I have formed several conclusions at this point. Laser sights are not a replacement for open sights. They are an enhancement and could be an alternative sighting device in some tactical situations. Officers should and must continue to be trained and continue to qualify using open sights. Based upon my experience to date, I do believe the laser is a reliable alternative sighting device, and I would feel totally confident using the laser for sighting in some situations. I also believe the laser sight is a major enhancement to officer safety and public safety. Having worked the street for more than 35 years, and having survived three shooting incidents, I believe I can form an educated opinion as to what would be advantageous to our officers.

The best argument and biggest advantage to having a laser sight on a duty weapon is the fact that it is a less than lethal force alternative which can have the “red dot” effect on a suspect. I have read many testimonials from officers attesting to this fact, and those are a fraction of the “red dot” incidents in the United States over the last 30+ years. If only one SPD

officer did not have to use deadly force because of the “red dot” effect, the use of laser sights would be totally validated. Laser sights help bad guys make informed decisions.

This technology is not cheap, and I am certain the Department would not buy this technology for us. When SPD became the next to last law enforcement agency in Washington to allow its officers the option of carrying a semiautomatic pistol, the Department required the individual officer to buy the weapon and all ammunition. As a member of the Board of Directors of your Guild, I am going to do everything I can to see that our officers are given the same option in regards to laser sights.

Be safe out there.

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Retired News

By Mike Germann

New Retirements

This month, there are two new retirements to announce, a LEOFF I and a LEOFF II:

LEOFF I

Norman K. “Norm” Gow, #3974, Seattle Police Sergeant, both Patrol and Detectives, retired for service on August 27, 2006, following 30 years and 5 months of police LEOFF I service. Norm wrote the following piece on his life and times with the Seattle Police Department and asked that it be published verbatim.

DATE OF HIRE: March 15, 1976
Class #78
PROMOTED TO SGT: January, 1982
Supervisory assignments included:

- Communications
- Audit and Procedures
- Internal Investigations
- Accident Investigations Unit
- Seattle Center Unit
- Patrol (four times)
- TOPOFF Planning Group

DATE OF RETIREMENT: August 27, 2006

As I “re-enter society” burdened by a lack of patience for, and confidence in the human race, I will draw on the friendships of those who made this job fun, humorous, and for the most part, a pleasure to come to work. To my academy classmates and staff, thanks for six months of support and learning the significance of teamwork. Special thanks to John, Dan, Tony, Rick, and “Coupon.” Terri, you’re one of the classiest women I’ve ever had the privilege of knowing and as always, a joy to work with. To those of you who worked for me in patrol, thank you for your dedication and hard work. Chemistry is always a supervisor’s concern; you helped alleviate that worry. Space won’t allow me to mention everyone but you know who you are. Finally, I’d like to recognize several very special people who I met through work. The first is an academy classmate.

Those who remember Tom Pritchard know his career was ended prematurely by a tragic accident. Despite his disability and overwhelming obstacles, he went on to achieve success and prosperity. Tom and Peggy (his wife of 30+ years) are the epitome of courage, determination, inspiration, and devotion to family. So many of life’s vital lessons

can be learned from these wonderful folks. Thank you for being a part of our family.

Lastly, I met this person in 1977, married her in 1979 and have remained partners through the good times and the bad. Life’s challenges brought by assignment changes, shift work, injury, and the tragic passing of friends tests even the most solid relationships. So, to my wife, Linda, as well as my son and daughter, Jordan and Leanne, thank you for all of your patience, tolerance, and understanding. At last, the ride is over...

Congratulations, Norm, on your well earned retirement. For those who don’t know, Norm is an outstanding fly fisherman and was a founding member and organizer of S.P.D.’s Fly Fishing Club. No small feat.

LEOFF II

Kenneth D. Hooper, #4395, Seattle Police Sergeant, Patrol, retired for service on July 25, 2006, following 26 years and 2 months LEOFF II sworn police service. Again, “Hoop” wrote the following piece on his life and times with the Seattle Police Department.

Joining the department in 1980 after ten years in the Navy was the best thing I could have done, even if it was only for \$8.50 an hour.

I worked in Rainier Valley (3rd watch) for six years with great people like Sparby, McFadden, Steiger, Deb Meyer, Enriquez, Alexander, Gleason, and Skarr, just to name a few who are still around. Many stories could be told of those days but probably shouldn’t, though my mother-in-law still thinks I used to sing in the church choir due to my attending “choir practice.”

Going into K-9 in ’86 was the highlight of my career. With my partner, Police Dog Rex, we earned numerous awards. In PD

Rex’s prime, he averaged 50 cases per year. Rex and I were the first K-9 team to cross-train with the SWAT team and work along side them in several calls. Nothing before or since has brought me as much satisfaction in my career. Leaving K-9 I was promoted to Sergeant, 3rd watch North. After a year I was transferred to East where I stayed until I retired. While East I worked bikes and an East Emphasis Team. Some of the details we worked were very different (Volunteer Park) and some were sad. But all in all, it was fun working bikes and all the demonstrations and protests. Many of the officers who worked for me worked on short notice and on their days off. In a lot of cases it made me look good in the eyes of the brass, though it did me no good. I need to thank these officers now: Keith Swank, Tom Ovens, Brandon James, Gerry House, Matt Hyra, Dick Scott, Sina Ebinger, Ron Smith, Len Carver, Tracy Wood and so many others. In closing, SPD and I have come to a different philosophy, and it’s time to move on.

If there is anyone who helped me keep my sanity, it is my wife Pam who would always keep things in perspective and me on track!

Ken Hooper is almost one of a kind in this day and age. He probably would have enjoyed being a Seattle Police Officer some 30 years or so, ago. “Hoop” does know “police work” and is truly one of Seattle’s Finest. His adventures and service in the military are also legendary; another story, another time.

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Retirees' Birthdays for the Month of September 2006

Allen, William C. "Bill"	9/08	Lindblom, Charles M. "Charlie"	9/03
Allshaw, Suzanne E. (Robert)	9/13	Marks, Louis V. "Lou"	9/28
Barnett, Gordon E. "Gordy"	9/21	Mason, James I. "Jim"	9/29
Baus, Howard L. "Hogger"	9/05	Mathews, David M. "Dave"	9/1
Bolger, Michael J. "Mike"	9/28	McFarlane, Richard A. "Dick"	9/23
Boren, John R. "Greyhound"	9/24	McNeilly, Robert D. "Bob"	9/16
Brown, Robert G. "Bob"	9/26	Meek, Charlotte (William)	9/21
Buckwalter, William K. "Bill"	9/11	Miller, Janet (William)	9/09
Burt, Owen C. "O.C."	9/24	Moore, William "Frank"	9/11
Burtis, Loren B. "Larry"	9/18	Murray, David G. "Dave"	9/06
Chapman, Ronald D. "Ron"	9/08	Nicholson, Jay	9/17
Christensen, Duane L.	9/27	Norlund, John K. "Johnny Deuce"	9/24
Collins, John H.	9/10	Odlin, Margaret (William)	9/29
Crist, Michael J. "Mike"	9/16	Parke, Robert C. "Bob"	9/16
Davis, Robert M. "Bob"	9/01	Pedersen, John D.	9/02
Dias, Nadine (Henry)	9/10	Petras, Michael R. "Mike"	9/21
Dietrich, Barbara J. (Ernest)	9/06	Pope, Terry R. (William)	9/18
Enders, Anthony L. "Tony"	9/15	Porter, Thelma (Ray)	9/14
Englin, Brian E.	9/15	Price,Jr. Stanley "Al"	9/04
Estep, Larry A.	9/13	Prideaux, David P. "Dave"	9/04
Falk, Dennis "Denny"	9/04	Reed, Leroy P. "Roy"	9/22
Forsell, Philip R. "Phil"	9/05	Roscoe, Bette (Clement)	9/17
Fridell, Alfred K. "Al"	9/21	Sanford, Joseph "Uncle Joe"	9/11
Fritschy, Douglas M. "Doug"	9/10	Schenck, William D. "Dale"	9/20
Gregg, Michael R. "Mike"	9/25	Seth, Gregory F. "Greg"	9/01
Grosvenor, Gordon D. "Gordy"	9/13	Seth, Nils R.	9/23
Grout, Barbara J. "Barb"	9/20	Swindler, Sharon (Herbert)	9/17
Habryle, Leroy J. "Lee"	9/29	Sylve, Ronald S. "Ron"	9/07
Hagen, Madeleine (Edward)	9/14	Sylvester, Frances (Paul)	9/23
Hannah, John R.	9/17	Testerman, Ronald E. "Ron"	9/09
Harper, Dale E.	9/01	Thole, Vernon A. "Vern"	9/17
Harrigan, Thomas A. "Tom"	9/07	Vanpuymbrouck, Arthur "Art"	9/14
Hay, Larry L.	9/22	Walker, Michael M. "Mike"	9/25
Henaby, William E. "Bill"	9/07	Ward, Michael W. "Mike"	9/19
Hoff, Robert L. "Bobby"	9/28	Waters, Marget D. (Donald)	9/12
Jackson, Janice (Robert)	9/27	Whalen, Kathleen M. (James)	9/27
Japar, Robert L. "Bob"	9/21	Wicklund, Helen (Ken Sylliaasen)	9/06
Jeffers, Thomas W. "Tom"	9/15	Williams, Gary D. "G.D."	9/14
Judd, Verlin L.	9/19	Wood, DONald E. "Don"	9/25
Kampsen, Frank B.	9/22	Wranstedt, Patricia (Clifford)	9/13
Kemper, Alan L. "Al"	9/23	Wright, Billy "Bill"	9/20
Knechtel, Steven B. "Steve"	9/23	Youk, Quentin L. "Quent"	9/27
Knechtel, Margaret (Elmer)	9/28	Zielke, Sidney "Sid"	9/09
Kolar, Chris R.	9/15		

Last Ring

Steve J. Dimak, #458, retired Seattle Police Department Detective, passed away on July 29, 2006, at 91 years of age.

Steve leaves behind his beloved family and countless friends. He is survived by daughter, Margie (Ron) Ross, granddaughters, Sheila (Todd) Waite and Shari (Mike) Derks, great grandchildren, Stephanie (Bjorn) Bjorkman, Josh Waite, Brendan Derks and Alexa Derks, brothers, Tony (Kay) Dimak and John (Lorraine) Dimak, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Margaret, and son-in-law, Jim O'Neill.

He joined the Seattle Police Department in December 1941. He was called to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II, and returned to the police department after his military service. Steve served in uniformed patrol, then as a detective in vice, homicide and robbery, and helped set up the intelligence unit. He provided security for visiting presidents, dignitaries and entertainers. Steve was one of the very few officers to hold the title of "Special Investigator" in the late 1950's and early 1960's and reported directly to the Chief of Police. He retired from the SPD in January 1967, following 26 years of police work.

He was a charter member of the Retired and Active Police Club, a lifetime member of Ballard Elks Lodge, and Roslyn Eagles. He enjoyed regular card games with friends at the Eagles and Elks until recently. He kept in touch with old friends and made new friends throughout his life.

Steve's family would like to thank his wonderful friends for their support and friendship through the years and during his recent declining health. His police buddies have said, "Not many are made like this anymore." "He is the last of the old timers." Steve never complained, was kind, strong yet tenderhearted. Thanks be to God who blessed him and his family by giving him a long and good life.

No funeral services will be held in accordance with his wishes. Remembrances to your favorite charity or Seattle or Shoreline Medic One.

Steve Dimak was a stand-up guy and exceptional Seattle Police Officer. The guys at R.A.P. will miss him, for sure.



Condolences to:

Retired Seattle Police Lieutenant Stan Schumacher, on the passing of his wife **Ardyce Joanne Schumacher**, age 62, who suffered from a long and debilitating illness that finally took her life on July 23, 2006. She passed away in the Bothell area and is survived by her husband of 44 years, Stanley, a daughter, a son, and three grandchildren. A memorial service was held in Bothell on August 18, 2006. Ardyce was cherished by all who knew her.



Special Condolences to:

The men and women of the Seattle Police Department, their Chief Gil Kerlikowske and the family and friends of the deceased, on the occasion of the tragic on-duty death of Seattle Police Patrol Officer **Joselito "Lito" Barber**, #6897, shortly after 4:00 a.m. on August 13, 2006, while on routine patrol in the East Precinct at the intersection of 23rd Avenue and E. Yesler Way. He was 26 years old at the time of his death and had less than a year of Seattle Police service.

Memorial services were held on August 21, 2006 at Clarence S. "Hec" Edmundson Pavilion on the University of Washington grounds before a huge crowd of mourners.

Rest in peace Officer "Lito" Barber and thank you for your loyal and dedicated service as a Seattle Police Officer to the citizens of Seattle.

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Editor's Notes

By Detective Ron Smith, B/T West



I am truly amazed and proud of the way the Department quickly organized after the tragic death of Officer Joselito Barber #6897 to ensure a smooth flow of honor for this fallen hero. Under the leadership of Chief Kerlikowske and Assistant Chief Nick Metz, the men and women of this fine organization rallied to honor Lito for a full week.

From the initial response on 08-13-2006, to officers watching over the roadside memorial at 23rd Avenue and Yesler Way, to officers of 2nd Watch East Precinct and motor officers escorting and meeting Lito at Bonney-Watson on 08-14-2006; the honor bestowed upon a fallen hero is moving. The Seattle Police Operations Center was activated and kept everyone aware of the details for the honoring of Lito. What the Department did was outstanding, and a model for any agency to follow.

I feel for the member's of Lito's Academy class who continue to drive on, as it was only 5 months ago that they toiled together to earn their badges. It was heartening to see the community outpouring after such a senseless crime by a career criminal took the life of a vibrant up and coming officer. On Monday August 21st, hundreds of officers from around the region and members of Lito's family and the community at large spent an entire day honoring Lito, before he reached his final resting place. May he rest in peace!

Although I never had the chance to see Lito working the street, I did get a chance to meet him while he was working at Home Depot as a Loss Prevention Officer. One time I stopped in to get some information about a case I was working on, and Lito told me he was testing for SPD. I told him good luck, but unfortunately I took it as something I had heard many times. Congratulations Lito for earning your ambition, you will never be forgotten, and always considered a brother in blue! While serving with the Honor Guard, I made four trips to the National Police Officers Memorial in Washington D.C, and remember the words of Mr. Craig Floyd, Chairman and Executive Director of the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Fund, "It is not how these officer's died that made them a hero, it is how they lived their lives." In learning about Lito, nothing could be more accurate.

The entire September issue of *The Guardian* is dedicated to memory of Officer Joselito Barber #6897. Until next month, please be safe out there! Feel free to contact me with your suggestions or concerns at spogguardian@yahoo.com. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." - John 15:13.

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Calendar of Events

Labor Day
Monday, September 4th (SPOG Office Closed)

Seattle Police Relief Association board meeting at the SPRAG Office
Wednesday, September 6th at 1300 hours

Annual Retired Officers Banquet at the Seattle Police Athletic Association Pavillion 11030-East Marginal Way S
Wednesday, September 13 at 1800 hours

Seattle Police Officers' Guild general membership meeting at the SPOG Office
Wednesday, September 27th at 2000 hours

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